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AND AT AN AUTHORITATIVE LEVEL. THE JULY 11 PRYDA REPORT OF GROMYKO'S COMMENTS, HOWEVER, DOES NOT MENTION SPECIFICALLY EITHER THE EC OR LORD CARRINGTON.

3. GROMYKO'S STATEMENT CONTINUES TO AVOID THE SUBSTANCE OF THE EC PROPOSAL. HE IS QUOTED ONLY AS HAVING SAID THAT THE PROPOSAL "DOES NOT RESPOND TO THE TASK OF A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF THE SITUATION WHICH HAS DEVELOPED AROUND AFGHANISTAN IF ONLY BECAUSE IT WILL EXAMINE QUESTIONS CONCERNING AFGHANISTAN WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT." HE DOES NOT ECHO LESS AUTHORITATIVE TASS REPORTS THAT HAD SUGGESTED THAT THE OTHER PROPOSED PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE WOULD STACK THE MEETING AGAINST THE SOVIETS.

4. THE STATEMENT CONFIRMS ONCE AGAIN AT AN AUTHORITATIVE LEVEL THAT THE SOVIETS ARE STICKING RIGIDLY TO THE MAY 14 PROPOSALS WITH ITS LATER MODIFICATIONS. GROMYKO CALLS THE MAY 14 PROPOSALS WITH BREZHNEV'S COMMENT AT THE XXVI CPSU CONGRESS A "CONSTRUCTIVE BASE" FOR A SETTLEMENT. HE DOES NOT MENTION THE BREZHNEV COMMENTS AT TBILISI, WHICH PRESUMABLY THE SOVIETS SEE MERELY AS A MINOR VARIANT OF THE XXVI CPSU CONGRESS LINE.

5. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED FOR KABUL. MATLOCK

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